

Message Text

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FOL RPT TOKYO 9925 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW, SEOUL,
TAIPEI, HONG KONG, PEKING, CINCPAC DATED 01 JUL 77

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 9925

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, JA, US

SUBJECT: JAPANESE REACTION TO SECRETARY'S ASIA SOCIETY SPEECH

1. JAPANESE MEDIA GAVE HEAVY, GENERALLY FAVORABLE
PLAY TO SECRETARY'S JUNE 29 SPEECH BEFORE ASIA SOCIETY.
STORIES HIGHLIGHTED SECRETARY'S REAFFIRMATION OF US
COMMITMENT TO REMAIN ASIAN AND PACIFIC POWER AND IN
PARTICULAR, IMPORTANCE AND PRIORITY HE ATTACHED TO
CONTINUED CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.
KYODO WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNT INTERPRETED SECRETARY'S
COMMENTS ON JAPANESE ECONOMIC "RESPONSIBILITIES" AS
"GENTLE CHIDING" OF GOJ FOR FAILURE TO STIMULATE
ECONOMY SUFFICIENTLY AND TO OPEN UP DOMESTIC MARKETS

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FOR IMPORTS . OTHER STORIES FOLLOWED SIMILAR LINE, BUT
ONLY YOMIURI CHOSE TO PLAY IT IN NEGATIVE TONE. SANKEI
SAID THAT ALTHOUGH SPEECH DID NOT CONTAIN MANY NEW
DEPARTURES, CONTENTS DEFINITELY EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS
OF JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS.

2. ALTHOUGH MOST ACCOUNTS OF SPEECH LED WITH JAPAN-

RELATED ASPECTS OF SPEECH, SECRETARY'S DESCRIPTION OF
NORMALIZATION WITH PRC AS "CENTRAL PART OF OUR FOREIGN
POLICY" RAN CLOSE SECOND IN EXCITING MEDIA INTEREST.
FONMIN SOURCE CITED AS SAYING THAT IT WAS CLEAR
SECRETARY WAS GIVING ATTENTION TO CHINA WITH AUGUST
VISIT IN MIND, BUT HE DOUBTED WHETHER THERE WOULD BE
DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS IN US-PRC RELATIONS.

3. PRIMIN AND CABINET ARE PRESENTLY IN AND OUT OF
TOKYO, PREOCCUPIED WITH UPPER HOUSE ELECTION CAMPAIGNING,
AND HAVE NOT YET MADE FORMAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON
SPEECH. WE HAVE ENSURED THAT SPEECH HAS BEEN CALLED
TO ATTENTION OF PRIMIN, FONMIN AND CHIEF CABINET
SECRETARY. IN BACKGROUNDER TO JAPANESE PRESS ON
EVENING OF JUNE 30, FONMIN HATOYAMA WELCOMED SPEECH
AS AUTHORITATIVE EXPLANATION OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S
POLICY TOWARDS EAST ASIA. WE UNDERSTAND FROM FONMIN'S
PRIVATE SECRETARY THAT HATOYAMA FOUND SECRETARY'S
COMMENTS "IMPRESSIVE IN BOTH SUBSTANCE AND STYLE" AND
CONSIDERED SPEECH ESPECIALLY USEFUL RESTATEMENT OF
US SECURITY COMMITMENT TO ROK.
MANSFIELD UNQUOTE VANCE

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